

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

LEVINUS PIETER BAKKER et al.

Group Art Unit: 1756

Application No.: 10/743,265

Examiner:

Filed: December 23, 2003

Confirmation No.: 4468

For:

CONTAMINATION BARRIER WITH EXPANDABLE LAMELLAS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

PCT WO99/42904, also cited in the European Search Report, was already cited for consideration by the Examiner on December 23, 2003.

The undersigned respectfully notes that copies of U.S. references are not required in applications filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully Submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

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Registration Number 47418

Date: May 21, 2004

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